



General Principles for Sessions(New Grads)

1. Do not let the child go through your bag. Say "Don't peek! Its' a surprise! Sit here!"

EXCEPTION: if the child is very difficult and nothing else works except to shove the bag in their direction and say "OK, you pick something out!"

2. Take out only one toy at a time. Put it back before you take out another one.

3. Have a child help you put away toys with many pieces. Sing the clean-up song. You start it, then hold the bag.

4. If/when child does not comply, try "my turn/your turn" strategy.

5. Any toy that is thrown, should be picked up by the child. Be calm and matter of fact, use hand-over-hand if necessary.

6. Teach child to wipe his hands with a wipe as needed. Then teach him to wipe the table.

7. If child's hair hangs in their eyes, make wearing a hairbow a calendar activity. Bring tiny hairbows and start each session with putting the hair up.

8. Sing songs to activities whenever you can.

On therapy ball, banging blocks, on rocking horse, washing hands

9. Talk to the toys. Holler at the toys. Children think this is very funny.

10. Near end of session, say "Last chance to...." or "One more thing...."

11, At end, say "(Ginny) has to go home now...." Say goodbye to Mom, but avoid prolonged goodbyes with the child because he may cry and that does not help Mom.

12, Session Notes:

A. Write all notes during the session as events happen. Tell Mom that you will be doing this so that you do not forget anything.

B. Fill out the top of Session Note for each child. Make copies.

13. Give the greatest session possible and when time is up, leave.

14. Never forget, the wilder the child gets, the calmer the therapist has to get.

